

THE CHAMPION

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tively in Advance.

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All persons who paid their poll taxes later than April 13 will be asked to present their receipts when going to the polls to vote.

Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, mental science leader, has returned to Florida to live. She liked California people ever so much but couldn't part with the Florida climate. Her natural mental ability seems in no wise weakened and she has now entered upon a bigger task than the "Conquest of Poverty." Her efforts are from henceforth directed to teaching people how to prevent old age and elude death. When she has proved herself able to eliminate these foes of mankind then indeed will she be a leader under whose banner all who know of her will enlist.

"DeSoto county was run at an average of 15 1/4 mills the first ten years of its organization."—Wauchula Advocate.

That was when we had no public school buildings, three month schools, no good bridges, and the road work was done, not by taxation, but by every registered voter working nine days in each year on the public road.

"The past four years the tax rate has averaged 24 1/4 mills."—Wauchula Advocate.

But in return we have a great many good school houses, a large number of good schools running five to eight months each, a great many miles of graded roads, graded with money from the county treasury, a number of new, fine, modern steel bridges and numerous other public improvements. Is the Wauchula editor anxious to live under 15 1/4 mill advantages?

Why Some Small Counties in Florida Are Not in Debt.

Principally and foremost, perhaps is because nobody will loan them any money. Capitalists are wise enough to see that it would not be a safe investment if the county is poor, small and sparsely populated.

It is conceded that the only possible way for Punta Gorda county or Wauchula county to go into business at all would be by bonding to raise some money to build the necessary offices, court house and jail. Of course bonding would not increase taxes! Oh, No! But cases in Florida can be cited where except for state aid extended at the right time a whole row of our small counties, would have gone into bankruptcy. Are our friends of division calculating on such helps?

Our division friends talk of the small tax rate when DeSoto was a part of Manatee. Was that because the county was so small? Was it not rather because it was so poorly equipped with schools, good roads, county buildings, etc.? We have it from one of the county commissioners of that time that DeSoto county found the first few years a great struggle to meet the necessary expenses of the new county. Those who are clamoring for division were not here at that time.

If dividing the county would reduce the tax rate does any body believe that we would oppose it?

It is because we have the figures to prove that it would greatly increase our taxes to make three counties out of one, that we oppose it. Don't take on faith anybody's assertion that dividing the county will produce the millenium. It will be only a paradise for the office holders and not much of a one for them.

Why Arcadia Opposes Division.

1. Because it will work against the welfare of the whole section from Bowling Green to the extreme southern end of the county, and we believe in the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number.

2. Arcadia people pay approximately one-quarter of the taxes which would go to Punta Gorda county from which Arcadia would receive no benefit, thus working hardship upon the central county. These are taxes on cattle and other personal property and pastures.

3. DeSoto is now known as one of the most prosperous counties in the State, renowned for her output of oranges, phosphates and cattle. Division would give us three small, weak, struggling counties, no credit to ourselves or the State, and we would immediately lose prestige both at home and abroad.

4. Because it will increase our taxes. This is a fact as all unprejudiced persons who investigate must agree. Our taxes are high enough now, but they are low compared to what they will be under division.

Public Speaking.

Each of the candidatas for Representative are invited to meet me for a public discussion of the questions of interest that properly arise in the campaign at the places and dates named below:

Punta Gorda, April 30, 2 p. m.
Fort Ogden, May 1, 1 p. m.
Nocatee, May 2, 10 a. m.
Owens, May 2, 2 p. m.
Pine Level, May 3, 10 a. m.
Lily, May 4, 10 a. m.
Brownville, May 5, 2 p. m.
Gardner, May 7, 2 p. m.
Zolfo, May 8, 2 p. m.
Wauchula, May 9, 2 p. m.
Bowling Green, May 10, 2 p. m.
Crewsville, May 11, 10 a. m.
Avon Park, May 12, 10 a. m.
Arcadia, May 14, 2 p. m.

Ladies especially invited.

J. B. COCHRAN.

We are not fighting men so much as measures in this campaign. All the same we do not need to forget that there is a choice among those who are of our opinion on the division subject.

THE CHAMPION has been favored by the Governor with numerous pamphlets, circulars, etc. in which he discusses exhaustively his drainage plan. A little later on we hope to read and digest the information contained therein but just at present we are too busy fighting Division to stop to eat, let alone read.

No Small Counties In Florida

Are in debt. None of them have as high a tax rate as DeSoto
Don't believe anything told about increasing taxes.

Divide This County and Reduce the

Tax Rate. Do not forget that the only way to
vote for DIVISION is to

Vote for A. P. JORDAN

for the legislature.

B. M. WADE
C. G. DAVIS
J. H. CONCANNON } Committee

Political Announcements

Those Who are Running for Office And the Office They are Asking for

For County Judge.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
I hereby announce myself a candidate for county judge, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries, and solicit the support of the voters of the county. Respectfully,
R. E. BROWN.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of county judge and solicit the support of the voters at the coming primaries. If elected I promise to execute the duties of the office with impartiality and justice. Respectfully,
JAMES PHELON.

I take this method to respectfully announce myself a candidate for the office of county judge, subject to the action of the democratic primaries.
LEE M. HAMMEL.

For County Treasurer.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
I hereby announce myself as a candidate for County Treasurer, subject to the Democratic Primary of May the 15th. I promise you if elected, to discharge the duties of the office to the best of my ability. Soliciting the votes of one and all and thanking you in advance for same.
I remain, Yours Very Truly,
JAMES A. HENDRY.

For Sheriff.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
I hereby announce myself as a candidate for re-election as Sheriff of DeSoto county, subject to the democratic primaries, to fill the office for the next ensuing two years. I was elected for four years, but through some mistake, my bond to qualify for my regular term of four years did not reach me in time to file same in the legal time required by law. I would appreciate the support of all the voters of our county. Will say that I have done my best since I have been in office to put down crime of all kinds in this county, and if re-elected will continue on the same line.
A. C. FREEMAN.

For Representative.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
At the request of numerous friends in various parts of the county, I hereby announce myself a candidate for Representative in the Legislature, subject to the action of the democratic primaries of May 15th and June 12th.
As I have neither the time nor the means to make a thorough personal canvass of the county I deem it proper to state here that if elected I shall be my earnest endeavor to work for the best interest of the county and the masses of the people among whom I have lived for nearly 25 years, and upon whose welfare and prosperity my own depends.
I am opposed to the repeal of the Buckman Educational Bill, and a continuation of the State appropriation for the Tampa State Fair, which will probably be asked at the next session of the Legislature.
I am not controlled by any individual, faction

Don't make a candidate, but he would be a loser without them

He will lose who fails to wear Royal Raiment

"Pay Less and Dress Better"

Perry C. Brown.

Arcadia, Florida.

We are still selling

Economist Stoves

The best on Earth

Barbed Wire

\$2.65 per 1/4 mile roll

HURRY, HURRY, HURRY

The Arcadia Hardware Co

or corporation and shall advocate what I believe to be right regardless of whether it makes or loses votes for me.

I will take pleasure in answering any questions in regard to my opinion of public issues, either personally or through the press. Respectfully,
H. C. SPARKMAN.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for Representative of DeSoto county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary.
I am opposed to the repeal of the Buckman bill, and also further contributions by the State to the Tampa Fair Association.
If elected, will serve the people honestly and to the best of my ability.
J. B. COCHRAN.

Having been nominated by my fellow citizens of Wauchula and Punta Gorda as a candidate in the Primaries for Representative in the Legislature on a platform declaring for a fair and just division of DeSoto county, this card is to announce that fact and to solicit votes on that platform, and to pledge myself, if nominated and elected, to use my best efforts to secure a division that will prove satisfactory and beneficial as far as possible to all the people of the proposed three counties.
A. P. JORDAN.

At the request of my many friends, I have consented to enter the race for representative of DeSoto county in the next Florida Legislature and take this opportunity of soliciting the votes of the citizens of the county in the approaching Democratic primary election.
As I will not have the opportunity of seeing and talking with each individual personally, I deem it proper that I should define my position on some of the more important issues of the campaign.

I am opposed to a division of DeSoto county, for the reason that I am opposed to a high taxation. I consider it more economical to maintain the present county government than to establish and maintain two additional ones also with the same source of revenue.
I shall favor the repeal of the Drainage Act passed by the Legislature of 1905 as an arbitrary, unfair and unjust measure which if enforced will become a burden of taxation upon the people of the state.

I am in favor of the Educational Law known as the "Buckman Bill" and will oppose any effort to interfere with the location of the State University at Gainesville.

Having been born and reared within the boundaries of DeSoto county, all my interest being here, if I am honored with the nomination and election I shall be found working for the measures which I believe to be for the best interest of the state as a whole and DeSoto county in particular.

With honesty of purpose "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" I solicit the votes of my friends and the people of the county regardless of section or community.
Very respectfully,
W. H. HOOKER.

For Tax Assessor.

For, and in consideration of the sum of five (\$5) dollars, receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we are empowered and authorized to announce the candidacy of F. M. Cooper for re-election to the office of Tax Assessor of DeSoto county, Florida, subject to the action of the democratic primaries.

County Commissioner Dist. No. 4.

I respectfully announce myself a candidate county commissioner from District No. 4, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries, and solicit the votes of all my friends and democrats in the approaching primary election.
W. S. WOLFE.

For Tax Collector.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
I am a candidate for tax collector of your county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries.
WILL C. LANGFORD.

For County Commissioner Dist. No. 2.

I hereby announce myself a candidate county commissioner for district No. 2, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries, and promise, if elected, to perform the duties of the office in a strictly impartial manner and to the good of the whole people as I see it.
D. S. WILLIAMS.

I hereby announce myself a candidate county commissioner in district No. 4, promise, if elected, to do my duty conscientiously and to the best of my ability.
S. S. AVANT.

I announce myself as a candidate for County Commissioner for district No. 4, subject to the Democratic Primary of May 15th.
C. S. BUSHNELL.

I take this method of announcing to the voters of DeSoto county that I am a candidate for office of county commissioner from district No. 4, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries.
R. E. SMITH.

I have decided after consulting with my friends and fellow citizens to announce myself a candidate for County Commissioner for District No. 4, subject to the Democratic nomination. I promise, if elected to this office, to discharge the duties of the office to the best of my ability. Soliciting support of my fellow citizens, I remain,
Yours to push and serve,
JOHN L. LIVINGSTON.

Member School Board.

TO THE VOTERS OF DESOTO COUNTY:
By request of many friends, I hereby announce myself a candidate for member of the School Board for District No. 2, subject to the action of the Democratic Primaries, and regulations of the Democratic Primary, held May 15th. I promise, if elected, to represent the schools with the respect that they are entitled to, and also endeavor to honor the position which I aspire.
Very respectfully yours,
F. B. McCLANAHAN.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for member of the School Board from District No. 4, subject to the Democratic Primary and regulations of the Democratic Primary, held May 15th. I shall use my best endeavors to uphold the school interests of the entire county.
WM. L. SCOTT.

F. W. Hays & Co. is now at home in the building south of the Robt. hotel prepared to serve their customers with a fine line of general merchandise.